

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7311

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00807

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, UR, US, FR, UK, WB

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SOVIET NOV 13, 1974 REPLY IN UN TO

ALLIED STATEMENT ON BERLIN AND DEMOGRAPHIC

YEARBOOK

REF: A) USBER 2199, DEC 1974; B) BONN 18422, NOV 1974

SUMMARY: BONN GROUP IS DIVIDED ON QUESTION OF
NATURE OF REPLY TO SOVIET NOV 1974 STATEMENT AND EACH
DELEGATION HAS AGREED TO SEEK GUIDANCE FROM RESPECTIVE
CAPITAL. BRITISH WANT HARD-HITTING REPLY WITH RELATIVELY
DETAILED HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION OF SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF
QUADRIPARTITE DECISIONS WHILE US AND FRENCH REPS FAVOR
CLEAR RESTATEMENT OF ALLIED POSITION WITH AIM OF PROTECT-
ING LEGAL POSITION BUT CALCULATED TO BRING EXCHANGE IN UN
CONTEXT TO CLOSE. GERMANS ARE IN BETWEEN, AGREEING WITH
BRITISH THAT ALLIED REPLY MUST SERVE ALSO AS PROPAGANDA
DOCUMENT. END SUMMARY.

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1. AT MOST RECENT OF SERIES OF MEETINGS DURING WHICH SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED, BONN GROUP REPS CONCLUDED JAN 15 THAT GUIDANCE OF AUTHORITIES SHOULD BE SOUGHT. MAJOR POINT OF DIFFERENCE IS BETWEEN UK ON ONE HAND AND US AND FRENCH ON OTHER WITH FORMER TAKING POSITION THAT THIS PARTICULAR SOVIET NOTE RATHER SERIOUS SINCE IT IS SUCH FORTHRIGHT MISREPRESENTATION OF HISTORY OF ISSUE. UK REPS TAKE POSITION THAT VIEW OF 3 ALLIES, AND HISTORICAL FACTS MUST BE PUT TO UN VERY CLEARLY AND IN DETAIL.

2. US AND FRENCH VIEW IS THAT AIM OF ALLIED REPLY SHOULD BE TO PROTECT LEGAL POSITION AND TO SHUT OFF EXCHANGE. IF EACH SIDE ATTACKS OTHER AS A VIOLATOR OF QUAD AGREEMENTS, THIRD PARTIES COULD CONCLUDE NOTHING REMAINS OF THOSE AGREEMENTS. FURTHER, ALLIED POSITION ON SUBJECT IN UN CONTEXT NOT SO STRONG AS THAT OF SOVIETS: TO MOST UN DELEGATIONS THAT EAST BERLIN IS PART OF GDR AND ITS CAPITAL IS AN "OBVIOUS FACT." TO ENGAGE IN MUCH DISCUSSION OF HISTORY COULD OPEN DOOR TO ENDLESS EXCHANGE OF NOTES IT WOULD APPEAR THAT SOVIETS HAVE MORE TO GAIN IN UN CONTEXT THAN ALLIES, SO BEST TACK IS TO SHUT THEM OFF, PERHAPS ALONG LINES SOVIETS, AS SIGNATOR OF QD HAVE FORECLOSED FOR SELVES ANY RIGHT TO ATTACK QRR. IT WOULD SEEM THAT ONLY OTHER REAL POSSIBILITY WOULD BE TO POINT OUT TO UN MEMBERS ACTIVITIES OF ALLIES, SUCH AS ACCESS RIGHTS, FLAG TOURS OF ESB, ETC, WHICH CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE EXERCISE OF ALLIED RIGHTS, BUT THIS APPROACH COULD ALSO BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND US AND FRENCH REPS DO NOT FAVOR THIS COURSE.

3. FRG HAS EXPRESSED VIEW OF FAVORING MIDDLE POSITION IN WHICH FORTHRIGHT LANGUAGE WOULD BE USED TO SET OUT HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CONCLUDING WITH EXPLANATION OF PRESENT SITUATION WITH EMPHASIS ON QA AND QD.

4. REQUESTDEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE
ON PREFERRED GENERAL APPROACH.
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